

Obituary- Dr Sanjaya Rajaram

The Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Pusa Campus, New Delhi, India, joins the rest of the agricultural research community in paying deep respects and homage to **Dr Sanjaya Rajaram**, on his sad demise on Feb. 17, 2021, in Mexico.

A distinguished wheat breeder and alumnus of Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi, Dr Rajaram was a student of genetics and plant breeding under Prof. M.S. Swaminathan at the IARI in New Delhi in 1964 before joining Dr. Norman Borlaug in CIMMYT, Mexico in 1969. Dr Rajaram headed bread wheat breeding research program at CIMMYT for more than three decades. He also headed the CWANA program of wheat at ICARDA, Aleppo, Syria for more than six years.

His dynamic leadership and strong commitment to wheat improvement resulted in the release of more than 480 varieties of bread wheat with increased yield potential and stability, along with wide adaptation and resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses (for more details, please see the CIMMYT blog)

<https://www.cimmyt.org/news/remembering-the-life-and-legacy-of-sanjaya-rajaram/>

Based on his outstanding contributions, he was endowed with several awards and honours including the coveted and prestigious **World Food Prize 2014**. He was also the recipient of **Dr M S Swaminathan Award 2010** given by Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi.



The entire TAAS family prays to the Almighty to rest the noble soul in eternal peace and give enough courage to all members of the bereaved family to bear this tragic and irreparable loss.